

**BUPERS clarifies  
ENCORE policy**  
page 2

**Essex Sailors keep in  
touch via email**  
page 3

**Status of the Navy  
(Dec. 30, 1996)**  
page 3

**Navy-Marine Corps  
News Lineup**  
page 4

## Improved garrison caps to hit stores

*Story courtesy of Navy  
Exchange Command*

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. (NWSA) — The black garrison cap was approved for wear with the winter uniform in September 1996. With an estimated total requirement of 250,000 for officers, chiefs and enlisted Sailors, 36,000 caps were needed to satisfy the short term demand for the shift to winter uniforms in October. Due to the immediate requirement of this item, the initial shipment of caps was constructed of fabric without a fused backing.

"The fused and unfused caps are nearly identical in appearance and are of comparable quality," said Becky Adkins, director of the Navy Uniform Program at the Navy Exchange Service Command (NEXCOM). "The main difference is that the fused caps are stiffer, retain their shape better and present a sharper military appearance."

NEXCOM has fused caps on order from three different suppliers. The first shipments have already been received at many Navy Exchanges. Production capacity will reach 50,000 caps per month by the end of December.

Any individual who purchased an unfused cap can exchange it for the stiffer fused cap at no charge as supplies become available. "While both caps are authorized for wear, Sailors are encouraged to take advantage of the free exchange policy," said Adkins. "Our goal is to completely satisfy our customers in Uniform Shops around the world."

# NAVY NEWS

Vol. 001/97

Jan. 3, 1997



ABF2 Karl Thomsen (left), of Akron, Ohio, and ABFAN Mark Bastys, of Chicago, perform fuel hose maintenance on the flight deck of USS *George Washington* (CVN 73). (U.S. Navy photo by AN Hendricks).

## Flight deck hazard pay revised

*by LT Lydia Robertson  
BUPERS Public Affairs*

WASHINGTON (NNS) — A completely revised Flight Deck Hazardous Duty Incentive Pay (FDHDIP) program took effect Dec. 12 and makes approximately 500 more billets eligible for the pay.

Among the changes, quotas are now based on a new ratio of launch personnel per embarked aircraft load, allowing the air wing commander to determine exact quotas based on embarked number and type of aircraft. Landing safety officer (LSO) quotas have been increased and now include LSOs under instruction.

The new instruction clearly defines monthly versus pro-rated FDHDIP entitlement standards and defined creditable qualifying flight deck evolutions. Also, increases have been incorporated in various ship class quotas to match current ship manning documents (SMD) flight quarters requirements. No ship class lost quotas in the revision.

"Bringing FDHDIP up to date has been a long and overdue process," said VADM Daniel Oliver, Chief of Naval Personnel. "As you can see, we made a lot of common sense changes to improve the overall program. In fact, the increases in quotas for most ships

● see **FLIGHT PAY**, page 3

## BUPERS clarifies ENCORE policy

by LT Lydia Robertson  
BUPERS Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (NWSA) — The Bureau of Naval Personnel (BUPERS) recently released new information on ENCORE, the Navy's first-term enlistment and extension program.

NAVADMIN 292/96 contains extension requirements, definitions and general information on ENCORE, an invaluable tool for improving manning levels by rating and increasing the advancement and professional opportunities for many Sailors.

ENCORE helps balance personnel inventories and requirements and, where appropriate, converts reenlistees from over-manned ratings to ratings offering greater opportunities for career advancement.

"Although a few Sailors in over manned ratings may not receive ENCORE approval, ENCORE's mission is to keep Sailors in ratings where they are needed, encourage Sailors to enter undermanned ratings and discourage Sailors from entering the career force in over manned ratings," said VADM Daniel Oliver, Chief of Naval Personnel.

"We would like to retain all first

termers; however, the Navy cannot afford to retain Sailors in any rating above and beyond requirements. Please counsel first termers early in their careers on the best options."

All first term personnel wishing to reenlist must submit ENCORE messages; Sailors in CREO 1 and CREO 2 ratings must submit the messages for notification only, while Sailors in CREO 3 ratings must receive BUPERS approval prior to reenlisting.

According to NAVADMIN 292/96, extensions without ENCORE approval normally will not be granted if they take a first-term Sailor past four years of active duty, except in the following cases:

- to await advancement exam results,
- to await selection results for EEAP/ Officer programs,
- to accept orders overseas or extend overseas,
- to accept orders or extend at a sea command,
- to accept an accelerated advancement.

Extensions can not carry a first-term Sailor to six or more years of service under any circumstances.

For more information, BUPERS Access carries the reenlistment criteria for each rating, individual ENCORE status and any 'A' School availability dates.

Points of contact are as follows:

- Policy, (PERS-222E) (703)695-0888 (DSN 225)
- 'A' Schools (PERS-4010S) (703) 693-1325 (DSN 223) or 614-1323 (DSN 224)
- Conversions (PERS 255D) (703)693-1338 (DSN 223)
- TAR Programs (Pers-913D) (202)433-8659 (DSN 288).

Sailors should also consult the semi-annual CREO/REGA NAVADMIN for opportunities for non-designated strikers, current CREO category and advancement forecasts by rating.

## Dates set for Surface CDR Command Slating Board

by LT Pamela Kunze  
BUPERS Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (NNS) — The FY97 Surface Commander Command Slating board is set to convene Jan. 14.

The board, chaired by a Surface Warfare Vice Admiral, is scheduled to last two days. All officers seeking to correspond with the President of the Board must submit their correspondence in accordance with Military Personnel Manual Article 2220120.

More information on the board is available in NAVADMIN 274/96 or through BUPERS point of contact LT Cutsinger (PERS 410B) at (703) 693-0878 or DSN 223-0878.

## Summary of NAVADMINs

**NAVADMIN 295/96**

**(DTG 241426Z DEC 96)**

Announces a complete revision of the Flight Deck Hazardous Duty Incentive Pay.

**NAVADMIN 296/96**

**(DTG 241511Z DEC 96)**

Lists the results of the Oct. '96 Transfer selection board.

**NAVADMIN 297/96**

**(DTG 241512Z DEC 96)**

Announces the Feb. '97 Acquisition Professional Community selection board.

**NAVADMIN 298/96**

**(DTG 261921Z DEC 96)**

Establishes eligibility criteria and procedures for MGIB enrollment for certain VEAP participants.

**NAVADMIN 299/96**

**(DTG 261922Z DEC 96)**

Lists active duty promotions to the permanent and temporary grades of CAPT, CDR and LCDR (Line & Staff Corps).



### NavNews

Navy News Service, a weekly publication containing stories of fleetwide interest, is an official product of the Naval Media Center.

Editor

**JO2 Jason D. Thompson**

Production Manager

**ENS Kimberly S. Marks**

The desktop version of NavNews can be accessed on the Navy Public Affairs Library Home Page: <http://www.navy.mil/navpalib/news/navnews/. www/navnews.html>, <ftp://ftp.navy.mil/navpalib/new/navnews> or the CNO Bulletin Board: 1-800-582-2355/6940/(703)695-6198/6388/DSN:227-2442/6. E-mail story submissions to: <navnews@mediacen.navy.mil> or call NavNews at (202) 433-4152/DSN 288-4152.

## Essex Sailors keep in touch via e-mail

by SN C. Paul Mayfield  
USS Essex Public Affairs

COMFIFTHFLT (NWSA) — USS Essex (LHD 2) Sailors now have the ability to e-mail their family and friends while on deployment. "You can send out a message and get one in return within a matter of hours, depending on when they get the message at home," said the 23-year-old Data Processing Technician 3rd Class Dewayne "Buddy" Solon, of Downey, Calif.

Solon and his fellow DPs and data systems technicians installed a fiber optic line from the data processing center to the ship's multi-resource center and connected a computer into the ship's Local Area Network (LAN) so crew members could access e-mail. Their letters are sent through the LAN to a ship's router, through a super high frequency (SHF) antenna, then to the Internet.

It's as easy as putting your name on a sign-up sheet then showing up at your

scheduled time. Each person is allowed 15 minutes to compose messages. Then the messages are sent out. Incoming messages are put into a folder for the crew member to pick up. The program is supervised by the ship's religious program specialists and other volunteers in the library.

Anyone wanting to write or respond to someone on the ship via e-mail should write to <crew@essex.navy.mil>. The top of the message should include as much information on the crew member as possible, including full name, rate, work center or division and phone extension if available. This will ensure the timely delivery of the message to its recipient.

Essex also has a home page on the Internet at <<http://www.essex.navy.mil>>. The home page contains current photographs and information about the ship's deployment which is updated weekly.

"E-mail helps out a lot because it

## Flight Pay

● continued from page 1

and squadrons and maintaining quotas for other units at existing levels is good pay news for 11,700 Sailors."

A PC-based software tracking program, available for download on BUPERS Access, replaces the cumbersome tracking paper form (OPNAV 7220/2). The revised instruction is also

available on BUPERS Access.

NAVADMIN 295/96 details the program changes, lists the new quotas for eligible ships and squadrons and provides instructions on downloading the revised instruction.

keeps me in contact with my wife when I'm not able to call her," said 22-year-old Interior Communications Electrician 3rd Class Steve D. James from Lake Zurich, Ill.

The ship plans to install another computer to allow more people to send messages. Currently there are between 80 and 100 messages sent per day, and even more received. With another computer the numbers will increase considerably.

## Status of the Navy

Dec. 30, 1996

**Personnel:** 408,478 active duty;  
97,851 reserves; 217,824 civilians

**Aircraft:** 4,817

**Ships:** 352

**At Sea:** 104 ships (29%)

**Deployed:** 96 ships

**Personnel Deployed:** 47,682

**Exercises:** 3

**Port Visits:** 14

**SSNs at Sea:** 12 (16%)

**Carriers/Air Wings at Sea:**

USS *Kitty Hawk*/CVW-11: local  
operations, Arabian Gulf

USS *Theodore Roosevelt*/CVW-3:  
Western Mediterranean

**LHAs/LHDs/LPHs at Sea:**

USS *Essex*: FLEETEX, Eastern  
Pacific

USS *Nassau*/26th MEU: port visit,  
Trieste, Italy

**Ships Assigned to Middle East**

**Force:** USS *Valley Forge*, USS  
*Jarrett*, USS *Ardent*, USS *Dex-*  
*trous*, USS *Stump*, USS *Stephen*  
*W. Groves*

**Other Exercises/Operations:**

Counter-Drug Operations, Carib-  
bean/East Pacific

Maritime Interception Operations,  
Arabian Gulf

Operation *Southern Watch*,  
Arabian Gulf

Operation *Vigilant Sentinel*,  
Arabian Gulf

Exercise *Eager Mace*, Arabian Gulf

## Notable Quotable

"I will be leaving this job with a great sense of appreciation for the magnificent experience that I have been privileged to have, and I'll also leave it with a great sense of achievement." — **William J. Perry** discussing his recent decision to retire as Secretary of Defense in an interview with the Armed Forces Press Service.

## Indy Sailors use Navy's National Apprenticeship Program

by JO2 Henry W. Rice, *USS Independence Public Affairs*

YOKOSUKA, Japan (NWSA) — The Navy's National Apprenticeship Program (NNAP) enables Sailors to apply their Navy training and work experience toward civilian journeyman certification. Under an agreement between the Navy and the Labor Department's Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training, apprenticeships are available in 78 ratings and 74 trades. Fifty-seven of these ratings are represented aboard *USS Independence* (CV 62).

"The apprenticeship program is there to help Sailors obtain a journeyman's license in the field they are working in," said Seaman Michael L. Williams, Educational Services Office. "It is an excellent program to set up something that you can use once you leave the Navy."

Some colleges offer credit toward an associates degree for completion of an apprenticeship program. The program gives Sailors the opportunity to meet the requirements to participate in state licensing examinations. Higher starting pay in the civilian work force is also possible.

"I enrolled in the program because it gives me the

opportunity to get my associates degree," said Master-at-Arms 3rd Class Kevin M. Curtis, of Albion, N.Y. A member of the legal department, he has completed 50 percent of his apprenticeship.

"I found out about the program through the ship's Educational Services Office, and started last year. There are a lot of hours that must be put in to complete the requirements, but the outcome of the program is very rewarding."

To become an apprentice, you need a high school diploma (or equivalent), and must be in a rating that has a program. To complete the program, Sailors have to complete a specified number of hours of technical classroom instruction and on-the-job training. The classroom training is obtained at class "A" and "C" schools. The classroom instruction requirement is not waivable.

The length of the on-the-job training will vary from one to four years, depending on the trade. Sailors are required to complete 144 hours of related technical instruction for each year of apprenticeship.

## NAVY-MARINE CORPS NEWS

Navy-Marine Corps News is a videotaped newscast generated for broadcast to Navy-Marine Corps fleet and shore units. The next Navy-Marine Corps News (program #701) includes the following stories:

- President Clinton visits Marines, Sailors and families in Camp Lejeune for the holidays
- "Entertainment Tonight" features actress Halle Berry spending Christmas with Sailors and Marines in Europe
- ADM Paul Reason takes the helm as Commander in Chief of the Atlantic Fleet
- NEX and AT&T team up to make it easier for Sailors and Marines to phone home
- Enlisted Education Advancement Program can help you earn a degree
- USS *Cheyenne* sonar techs have an ear for the job
- What to do if you've been in a fender bender
- CREDO in Hawaii helps Sailors, Marines and families focus on priorities
- Military Photographer of the Year awards submission deadline is Feb. 1, 1997
- Naval Academy midshipmen visit with young fans in Hawaii
- Naval Academy captures an Aloha Bowl win against the University of California

We need your input on Navy-Marine Corps News, so call our FEEDBACK LINE at (202) 433-6108 or DSN 288-6108 and leave a message or send us E-Mail at: [nmcn@smtp.mediacen.navy.mil](mailto:nmcn@smtp.mediacen.navy.mil)

If you have distribution questions contact Mr. John Morrissey at (202) 433-5844 or DSN 288-5844, or write him at the address mentioned below. All Navy-Marine Corps News tapes must be returned each week. Please use the enclosed return label.

If you have items that you think would be of interest to the Navy or Marine Corps worldwide, please submit your original video contributions on BetaCam, Hi-8, Super VHS, or 3/4 inch videotape to the nearest Navy Broadcasting Fleet Support Detachment or send by fastest means possible to our field producer at:

Navy/Marine Corps News  
Naval Media Center, Bldg. 168  
2701 South Capitol St., S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20373-5819  
(202) 433-6275, DSN 288-6275